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Curtis L. Schrandt

#9

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S) : RILEY, James Francis and MCNAIR, Susan Gail
SERIAL NO. : 09/936,753
FILED : 09/17/01
FOR : SURFACE FINISHING MACHINE
ART UNIT : 3723
EXAMINER : RACHUBA, Maurina T.

MS Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

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Sir:

In response to an Office Communication mailed 2 April 2003, which requires submission of information clarifying the content of the application papers as filed on 17 September 2001 in the above-identified matter, the applicants state the following.

The applicants filed a Substitute Specification and Claims, which incorporated Article 34 amendments that were made in the international phase of the application (i.e., claims 1-31). Claims 1-50, referred to by the Examiner in the Office Communication, were the claims of the international application as originally filed (i.e., prior to the Article 34 amendments). For purposes of the United States national phase of the international patent application, the Substitute Specification and Claims formed the basis of the application.

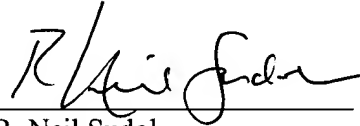
The substitute claims as filed (the Article 34 amended claims) were further amended by preliminary amendment, said preliminary amendment having been filed with the

application on 17 September 2001. Therefore, the Preliminary Amendment filed with the application amends claims 1-31 of the substitute claims, as included in the Substitute Specification and Claims filed on 17 September 2001.

Please credit any overpayment or charge any additional fees due in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 04-0838. A copy of this Submission is enclosed herewith for deposit account charging purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

Coleman Sudol Sapone, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Neil Sudol", written over a horizontal line.

R. Neil Sudol
Reg. No. 31,669
Attorney for Applicant

Dated: October 6, 2004

714 Colorado Ave.
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06605-1601
203-366-3560